

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1180822-3

Total Deleted Page(s) = 71

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SAC, Washington Field

January 24, 1951

Director, FBI

STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

di-1

Reurlet January 15, 1951, in which you requested that the Bureau arrange to obtain the March, 1950, issue of the "Intelligence Digest" in order that page 5 might be photostated.

There are enclosed herewith for your information and the completion of your file five photostatic copies of page 5 of the March, 1950, issue of the "Intelligence Digest." Photostatic copies of the pertinent item in the March, 1950, issue of the "Intelligence Digest" have been retained at the Bureau.

100-354477

Enclosures

WAA:dpk

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-79 BY 28851 JLD

G. I. R. 10
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STOP DESK

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JAN 26 1951

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
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Glavin _____
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Harbo _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

MAILED 12
JAN 25 1951
COMM-FBI

RECEIVED
JAN 24 4 51 PM '51
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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI

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1 FEB 2 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-26-89 BY SP-8 BTJ/28
293823

FBI WASH FIELD

1-16-51

8:45 P

DIRECTOR

U R G E N T

STEWART ALSOP; JOSEPH ALSOP; UNSUBS; ESP X. REFERENCE SAN FRANCISCO TELETYPE
TO WFO, AND BUREAU, JANUARY FOURTEEN, LAST, SUGGESTING CONTACT BY THIS OFFICE
WITH [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND WAS CONTACTED BY
THIS OFFICE TUESDAY EVENING UPON HIS RETURN FROM [REDACTED]

ADVISED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HE ADVISED HE BELIEVED IF INFORMATION
RELATING TO ALSOP INFORMANTS COULD BE OBTAINED BY ANYONE, HE BELIEVED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] COULD OBTAIN IT. HE POINTED OUT HE WOULD MAKE NO EFFORT
IN THIS REGARD IF THERE WAS ANY RISK INVOLVED THAT JOSEPH ALSOP MIGHT QUOTE

SMELL A RAT UNQUOTE [REDACTED] WOULD USE UTMOST DISCRETION
IN HIS DISCUSSION WITH ALSOP SO THAT THE LATTER WOULD NOT SUSPECT HIS INTENTIONS.

b7D

SUGGESTING THAT IN ORDER THAT HE MIGHT BE IN

61 JAN 29 1951

RECORDED

INDEXED

66-354477-56

JAN 29 1951

PAGE TWO

A POSITION TO FULLY DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH ALSOP IN A CASUAL WAY HE SHOULD HAVE THE BENEFIT OF AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY THE CONTROVERSIAL ALSOP COLUMNS.

ACCORDINGLY, COPIES OF THE OCTOBER THIRTEEN, FIFTY, AND DECEMBER THIRTY ONE,

FIFTY, COLUMNS, AS WELL AS A COPY OF THE DECEMBER TWENTY ~~TH~~ FIFTY, ALSOP ^{20th}

COLUMN, QUOTE THE TIME IS NOW UNQUOTE, ARE BEING FURNISHED TO [REDACTED]

THIS EVENING IN ORDER THAT HE WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO FULLY FAMILIARIZE

HIMSELF WITH THE CONTENTS OF THESE THREE NEWSPAPER ARTICLES. AS A MATTER OF

INFORMATION [REDACTED] EXPRESSED EXTREME PERSONAL PLEASURE IN THUS

BEING AFFORDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE OF SERVICE TO THE DIRECTOR [REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED] HE REITERATED THAT HE WOULD BE MOST

DISCREET IN HIS CONTACT WITH JOSEPH ALSOP [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AS A MATTER OF

ADDITIONAL INFO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE BUREAU WILL BE KEPT FULLY ADVISED

ON ALL DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS MATTER.

HOTTEL

CFG:dm
65-5722

CC - Mr. Belmont

CEG:cl
65-5722

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

VERY URGENT

WASH AND SAN FRANCISCO FROM WASH FIELD 1-18-51 10:10 AM
DIRECTOR AND SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

STEWART ALSOP, ET AL, ESP - X. REMYTEL JAN. SEVENTEEN, LAST, SETTING FORTH RESULTS OF RECONTACT WITH [REDACTED] FOLLOWING HIS APPOINTMENT WITH JOSEPH ALSOP. IN REFERENCE TELETYPE, IT WAS POINTED OUT [REDACTED] STATED IF ANY DIRECT APPROACH IS CONTEMPLATED IN QUESTIONING THE ALSOP BROTHERS, SUCH MOVE SHOULD BE HELD IN ABEYANCE FOR A REASONABLE LENGTH OF TIME IN ORDER NOT TO LEND ANY SUSPICION TO HIMSELF. I DESIRE TO POINT OUT SPECIFICALLY THE UNDERSTANDING WITH [REDACTED] WAS THAT HIS ACTIONS IN THIS MATTER, AS AN INFORMANT IN CONTACTING JOSEPH ALSOP, WOULD BE HELD IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE, AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD [REDACTED] SERVICES IN THIS REGARD BE MADE KNOWN OUTSIDE THIS BUREAU. IT IS CONTEMPLATED THAT THE RESULTS OF THE CONTACT WITH [REDACTED] WILL BE SET OUT IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE NEXT REPORT BEING PREPARED BY THIS OFFICE IN THIS MATTER.

b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY SP8 BTJ/ago
HOTTEL

RECORDED - 17
INDEXED - 17

100-354477-21

JAN 23 1951

EX-123

WPA

JAN 25 1951

CEG:cl
65-5722

WASH AND SAN FRANCISCO FROM WASH FIELD
DIRECTOR AND SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

1-17-51

5:30 PM

VERY URGENT

STEWART ALSOP, ET AL, ESP - X. REMYTEL JAN. SIXTEEN, LAST.

[REDACTED] WAS CONTACTED THIS AFTERNOON AT HIS REQUEST, FOLLOWING [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WITH JOSEPH ALSOP. [REDACTED]

STATED THE CONVERSATION WAS CONFINED

MOSTLY TO [REDACTED]

AND IN THE COURSE OF THEIR DIS-

CUSSION, THEY DISCUSSED [REDACTED]

IN LINE WITH THE SUBJECT

MATTER, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AT THAT POINT IN THE CONVERSATION, [REDACTED]

STATED [REDACTED]

STATED JOSEPH ALSOP THEN STATED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ALSO FURTHER POINTED OUT TO [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-26-89 BY 0883/08

1 JAN 29 1951

RECORDED - 17
INDEXED 17

EX-123

100-3547
JAN 23 1951

Belmont

PAGE #2

b7D

[REDACTED] RECALLED TO ALSOP HE HAD
SEEN ONE OF THEIR COLUMNS IN THE NEWSPAPER DEALING WITH SUCH INFORMATION AND AT THAT
POINT INQUIRED HOW STEWART WAS ABLE TO PICK UP THAT KIND OF INFORMATION AND IN REPLY,
JOSEPH ALSOP REPLIED HE DID NOT KNOW SPECIFICALLY WHERE STEWART GOT THE INFORMATION
BUT STEWART HAD INDICATED HE PICKED THE INFORMATION UP IN TALKING TO "SOME SOLDIERS
AND SCIENTISTS". JOSEPH ALSOP THEN TOLD [REDACTED] STEWART HAD OBTAINED
THE INFORMATION AND HAD WRITTEN THE COLUMNS WHILE HE, JOSEPH ALSOP, WAS AWAY IN
KOREA. [REDACTED] INQUIRED JUST HOW ACCURATE THE FOREGOING FIGURES WERE
AND JOSEPH ALSOP REPLIED THE DATA MUST BE CORRECT AND INDICATED THE NEWSPAPER
COLUMNS CONTAINING SUCH INFORMATION WRITTEN BY STEWART ALSOP HAD CONTAINED "SENSITIVE"
INFORMATION BECAUSE "THEY ARE NOW MAKING A SECURITY CHECK ON US". [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] SF IS

REQUESTED TO CONTACT HIM IMMEDIATELY UPON HIS RETURN AND SUPTEL BUREAU AND WFO.

HOTTEL

S/Huo

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

FROM : V. P. Keay

SUBJECT: STEWARD ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

DATE: January 16, 1951

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

Re memorandum January 9, 1951, addressed to you from Mr. Hennrich which recommended that through Liaison Mr. James S. Lay, Jr., of the National Security Council, be interviewed to determine whether any information has been received by the Alsop brothers through the NSC concerning the method used by the United States to determine that Russia has an Atomic Bomb.

Supervisor Edward S. Sanders met with Mr. Lay, Mr. Patrick Coyne and with Admiral Sidney Souers on January 11, 1951. Admiral Souers, as you know, was formerly Executive Secretary of the National Security Council and Coyne is the Internal Security Advisor for NSC. Attached hereto is a memorandum which was prepared by Admiral Souers, Lay and Coyne concerning the handling of information referred to in the referenced memorandum.

In reviewing this situation with these three individuals, it was their opinion that the real clue to any possible leak would be the sentence in the Alsop article of December 31, 1950, which read, "The chances are nine hundred and ninety-nine to one that it was a bomb that went off, and if it was not a bomb, neither I nor any of my colleagues can think of what it might have been."

On January 12, 1951, Admiral Souers advised that his calendar indicates that the report to the President was handed to him at 11:15 A.M., on September 21, 1950, in the President's office. Admiral Souers further indicated his record shows that those in the office were the President, Steve Early, General Slatter and Charles Ross. The Admiral stated that General Slatter handed the report to the President and indicated that it was extremely sensitive and that none of the other individuals in the room read the report. It was the General's opinion, however, that the explosion in Russia was an Atomic Bomb. The Admiral further advised that the President handed the reports back to General Slatter and told him to keep them in his safe. General Slatter was subsequently transferred to Wright Field, Ohio, and his position in Washington was taken over by Major General Wilson.

Attachment 1951
ESS:eb

EX-123

RECORDED - 17

INDEXED - 17

100-157472-6
JAN 23 1951

EX-123

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/26/88 BY 88371/2D. M. S. L. 2 t z e n
USC info 9/10/91 - remains
unclassified per USC 1.1.14-91
88371/2

Admiral Souers, acting upon Presidential instructions, instructed General Wilson to bring these papers to the President and this was done on January 15, 1951. The papers are sealed and presently in the President's possession. General Wilson advised Admiral Souers, however, that Agents of the Washington Field Office came to his office and that he reviewed these papers with the Bureau Agents. He stated the Agents did not personally review the cover memorandum which transmitted the two technical reports but that he, Wilson, had reviewed the memorandum in their presence and that the cover memorandum does not contain identical or similar language to that quoted above. Admiral Souers noted that the December 31, 1950, article does not specifically state that the quotation was contained in the document from which the information was taken. He further indicated that the Alsop brothers are experts in collecting information from various ^{public} sources and putting it together into one picture.

An interesting side light to this investigation is that Mr. Lay and Admiral Souers both feel that the investigation, whether productive or not, will sharply call the attention of Government officials to the fact that action will be taken when there is a leak of classified information.

RECOMMENDATION:

The foregoing is for your information.

~~TOP SECRET~~~~TOP SECRET~~ (U)

January 11, 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Mr. Sanders, of the FBI, met with Mr. Souers, Mr. Coyne and Mr. Lay this morning for the purpose of obtaining information regarding individuals in the Government who might have had access to the information contained in the newspaper column by the Alsop brothers on December 31, 1950, regarding Russia's atomic bombs.

It was explained that knowledge in this office of this type of information was confined to Mr. Souers and Mr. Lay. Such knowledge related to the preparation of the announcement by the President on this subject in September 1949. Records in this office showed that two memoranda from Admiral Hillenkoetter, Director of Central Intelligence, regarding samples of air masses, had been received on September 9 and 13, 1949. The memoranda were delivered to the President on the same date, by Mr. Souers. As remembered, these memoranda, while indicating one of the methods discussed by the Alsops, did not go into detail regarding that method or discuss the other methods included in the column.

Mr. Souers recalled that a report was given the President around this time which he believed contained information along the lines quoted in the Alsop column. Mr. Souers and Mr. Lay at no time read or had this report in their possession. However, Mr. Souers recalls having been present in the White House when it was delivered to the President by General Flatter. It was suggested that the distribution of this report must have been extremely limited. Tracing down the distribution of this report, therefore, should be the most effective approach to the problem. As regards the methods discussed, aside from the report referred to, it was suggested that these might well be known to many scientists.

It was suggested that Mr. Gordon Arneson in the State Department, and Mr. Robert LeBaron or Mr. William Webster in the Defense Department, should know the names of the officials in their respective departments who were authorized to have such information.

In answer to Mr. Sanders' question regarding a recent Alsop column on the size of the Soviet atomic stockpile, it was pointed out that this information was contained in NSC 63 and in a CIA report which had a limited distribution within the Executive Branch and was also sent to the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy. As regards NSC 63, it was explained that this report necessarily had a fairly wide distribution within the Executive Branch. It was suggested, however, that an investigation of the Alsop column regarding this report might have some value in showing the concern over leaks regarding such highly classified reports.

Sidney J. Souers
Sidney J. Souers

James S. Lay, Jr.
James S. Lay, Jr.

J. Patrick Coyne
J. Patrick Coyne

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-6 BJA/JAH
ON 12/24/94
② Doc 1052 Letter 12/18/91

~~TOP SECRET~~

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON ✓

DATE: January 12, 1951

FROM : L. B. NICHOLS

SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ESPIONAGE - X

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-26-89 BY 208 BJS/28

Tolson	✓
Ladd	✓
Clegg	✓
Glavin	✓
Nichols	✓
Rosen	✓
Tracy	✓
Harbo	✓
Belmont	✓
Mohr	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Nease	✓
Gandy	✓

With reference to Mr. Hennrich's memo of January 6, I conferred with Senator Brien McMahon on January 8th.

I advised the Senator that we had been directed to make an investigation as to the source of the information appearing in the Alsop brothers' columns of October 13, 1950, and December 31, 1950, and outlined the general purports of the columns.

Senator McMahon stated that his first thought was that this was information that should have been given to the public several months ago; however, that was neither here nor there as far as we were concerned. He stated that with reference to the detection of the explosion of the Soviet atom bomb, this could have come from any well-informed scientist either in or out of the Atomic Energy project. As to the number of atom bombs that the Russians have, he feels that there has been so much speculation in the papers already that this could very well have been a deduction from newspaper sources.

The Senator stated that he was certain that the Joint Committee had the information and he would check with William Borden, the Executive Director of the Staff, and have Borden so inform me with the details. As to the possible source of this, the Senator stated that his first thought was Carroll King, the former General Manager of the Atomic Energy Commission, who would have the information and who, he knew, was very close to the Alsop brothers. He thought that as a possibility this should be given a top priority if we had to find the source of the information and if it was not the speculation of a scientist.

The Senator stated that one other thought occurred to him; namely, Mr. David Teeple who at one time was the head of the Atomic Energy Joint Committee Staff until the early part of 1948. However, the Senator then discounted this on the ground that the Alsops were not close to Senator Hickenlooper and that in all probability Teeple, if he would have furnished any information, would have furnished it to some other column rather than the Alsop column.

CC: Mr. Hennrich (2 copies)

LBN:mr

1-1951

5 WAA
RECORDED - 65
INDEXED - 65
JAN 23 1951
EX-123

Memo to Mr. Tolson from Mr. Nichols
Re: Stewart Alsop;
Joseph Alsop;
Unknown Subject;
Espionage - X

January 12, 1951

William Borden called me on January 12 and advised that the Joint Committee had the information, that it was scattered through numerous documents, that it had been discussed by the staff and in the Committee, and that the basic document for most of this material would be in the semiannual report submitted to the Joint Committee by the Atomic Energy Commission.

This is particularly true with reference to the number of atom bombs the Russians might have. The items pertaining to the detection of the Russian explosion are not too comprehensively developed in their files but on the other hand the Joint Committee in the 80th Congress urged that steps be taken to be certain that the United States would know should the Russians explode an atom bomb and also of rumors to that effect. As a result of the agitation and suggestion of the Joint Committee, the plans were developed.

As a matter of fact, Borden stated that the material in the second column pertaining to the detection of the Russian explosion could have come from sources outside of Government circles and that he had learned in considerable detail of procedures taken even before he became connected with the Joint Committee staff.

Mr. Borden stated that he could state for a fact that the Alsops have not been in touch with staff members, that the only two staff members who would be authorized to talk to the Alsop brothers would be Harold Bergman and himself and that neither had talked to the Alsops.

The following is a list of the Joint Committee staff who would have access to the information:

William Borden
Harold Bergman
Wayne P. Brobeck
Walter Hamilton
Edward H. Haller
J. Kenneth Mansfield
William Sheehy

Memo to Mr. Tolson from Mr. Nichols
Re: Stewart Alsop;
Joseph Alsop;
Unknown Subject;
Espionage - X

January 12, 1951

Mr. Borden further stated that all Members of the Joint Committee would have had access to the information except Senator Arthur Vandenberg who would probably have some of the information but who was not attending Committee meetings for quite a period of time.

The following is a list of the Joint Committee:

Brien McMahon - Chairman
Carl T. ~~Durham~~ - Vice Chairman
Richard B. ~~Russell~~
Edwin C. ~~Johnson~~
Tom ~~Gonnally~~
Millard E. ~~Tydings~~
Bourke B. ~~Hickenlooper~~
Arthur H. ~~Vandenberg~~
Eugene D. ~~Millikin~~
William F. ~~Knowland~~
Chet ~~Holifield~~
Melvin ~~Price~~
Paul J. ~~Kilday~~ --- Henry M. ~~Jackson~~
W. Sterling ~~Cole~~
Charles H. ~~Elston~~
Carl ~~Hinsham~~
James E. ~~Van Zandt~~
(and according to Borden, John W. ~~Bricker~~)

Borden stated that he had no way of knowing and could make no observations as to the source of the information.

I made it clear to both Senator McMahon and to Borden that the FBI did not have the individual members of the Committee under investigation.

W

RD FORA NO. 64

Office M

m • UNIT

GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. BELMONT
 FROM : L. B. NICHOLS
 SUBJECT: JOSEPH ALSOP AND
 STEWART ALSOP
 LEAK OF INFORMATION

DATE: January 13, 1951

Attn: Mr. Hennrich
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 9-20-89 BY 381513

Tolson _____
 Ladd _____
 Clegg _____
 Glavin _____
 Nichols _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Harbo _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Nease _____
 Gandy _____

With reference to our conversation this morning and the statement of Professor J. Robert Oppenheimer to the effect that the statement appearing in the Alsops' column in question indicating that the chances were nine hundred ninety-nine to one that the Russians had the atomic bomb and Oppenheimer's observation that this sounded like his language and that he had appeared before the Joint Committee, I wish to advise that I have talked to Mr. William Borden, the Director of the staff. He advised me that Oppenheimer appeared before the Joint Committee on September 23, 1949 and again on January 30, 1950.

On the occasion of the appearance on September 23, 1949 the Joint Committee was advised that the President had instructed that the details of the evidence as to how we knew the Russians had exploded an atomic bomb were not to be discussed; that on that occasion a verbatim transcript was not kept but that one of the staff members, Ed Heller, made some hand-written notes and summary on the basis of a low classification of what had transpired; that the discussion on that day was directed primarily toward the question of whether the Russians had the atomic bomb and Borden states that after reading the summary and based upon his own recollection he could state that Professor Oppenheimer, without equivocation or qualification stated that the evidence conclusively established that the Russians had exploded an atomic bomb and that the only way the evidence could be interpreted was that an atomic bomb had been exploded or a bomb which was worse than the atomic bomb had been exploded. Borden further recalls that on this occasion Senator Millikin directed a hypothetical question to Oppenheimer and while he could not quote it verbatim the substance was that assuming that it was a hypothetical policy of the United States to launch a preventive war at the time the Russians exploded their first atomic bomb would Professor Oppenheimer think that now was the time; that Oppenheimer replied that if a preventive war was launched it would have to be for a better reason than the inconclusive character of the evidence.

Present at this meeting, aside from members of the Joint Committee, were Messrs Borden, Bergman, Sheehy, Brobeck and Howard Heller of the Joint Committee staff; Commissioner Smythe, Strauss, Dean and Fike of the Atomic Energy Commission; Joe Volpe, General McCormick of

LBN:LH

70

JAN 25 1951

the Military Weapons Division, William Webster, Chairman of Military Liaison, General Slater, Chief of the Air Force Special Weapons Division, Admiral Hillenkoetter and Adrian Fisher, the General Counsel for the State Department.

Borden further stated that they do have a verbatim transcript of the testimony of January 30 and that none of the points covered in the Alsops' column appear in this testimony. Borden stated he would be very glad if we so desired, to make those portions of the testimony available for review by an Agent, which pertained to the Alsop column. I told him that I saw no need for this now; that if we needed it we would let him know.

W

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. BELMONT

DATE: January 15, 1951

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT:

RE: STEWART O ALSEP
JOSEPH O ALSEP -
UNK SUB -

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

Admiral Souers called me from the White House this morning and stated he had endeavored to reach Agent Sanders; that he wanted to tell Sanders that the "hot paper" on the business we were checking had been delivered by General Wilson to President Truman, and is now in the hands of President Truman, having been sealed when it was received by him. No one else has seen it. Admiral Souers said he, himself, has not seen it and does not intend to.

Apparently this all pertains to the Drew Pearson investigation.

cc - Mr. E. S. Sanders

DML:CSH

This referred
to the case
ALSEP
WAA

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY SP8 BTJ/agp

10 BY
OFF DESK

RECORDED - 81

EX-100

JAN 18 1951

304
61 FEB 1 1951

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

081817

SAC, WFO

1/10/51

Director, FBI

STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

Reurtele 1/9/51 and previous teletypes in connection with the above-captioned matter.

In connection with this investigation, the Bureau desires that you interview individuals who are known to have had access to the vital info which appeared in classified Government documents previously identified by you.

It is noted that General Albert Wedemeyer and Dr. Omar Bush have been reported as personal contacts of the subjects and it is, therefore, believed that Wedemeyer and Bush should be interviewed.

In connection with further investigation of this case, you should interview persons on a selective basis who had access to the original basic documents involved in this investigation.

Upon completion of this phase of your investigation, a report should be submitted to the Bureau in order that this information be presented to the Department for an opinion as to action which may be desired.

Bureau desires that a report be submitted not later than 1/15/51.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 01/01/81 BY 2083 STJ/KAP
JAN 11 1951
RECORDED - 81
INDEXED - 81
JAN 13 1951
151
15. WJ 8003
11 NOV
WAF

SAC, Washington Field

January 12, 1951

Director, FBI

STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Reurtel January 11, 1951, relative to interviews with Secretary of State Dean Acheson, Under Secretary of State James E. Webb, Under Secretary of State H. Freeman Matthews and Assistant Secretary of State John D. Hickerson.

The Bureau desires that interviews be conducted with Webb, Matthews and Hickerson to determine the extent of their contacts with the Alsop brothers, to ascertain whether or not they furnished information to the Alsop brothers of a classified nature pertinent to this investigation and to determine what information they have relative to further dissemination of classified information involved in this case through the State Department. The Bureau does not desire that Secretary of State Dean Acheson be interviewed at this time.

100-354477 - 73

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9-26-80 BY 2020TJ/3128

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JAN 12 4 30 PM '51

Elson
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JAN 15 1951

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
JAN 15 1951
REC'D - LOGS ON 2 OFFICE

WAA

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

FROM : MR. C. E. WENNICH

SUBJECT: STUART ALSOP
JOSEPH ALSOP
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

DATE: January 6, 1951

Tolson _____

Ladd _____

Clegg _____

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Nease _____

Gandy _____

I talked with SAC Hottel of the WFO at 12:30 P.M. today. I furnished him with the contents of the letter to the WFO dated January 6 and instructed that an immediate investigation be instituted in connection with the obtaining of information which appeared in Alsop's columns of October 13 and December 31. In this connection I instructed that immediate efforts be directed to determining the number and identities of persons who had access to the information which was printed by Alsop and also toward determining the degree of classification of each item contained in the columns.

I instructed that thereafter the Bureau should be advised of the results of the investigation in order that we would not unnecessarily become involved in an extensive investigation of several hundred people. I emphasized that this matter must be given immediate and continuous attention.

ACTION:

For your information.

CEH:mer

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-81 BY 20857 Jlag

RECORDED - 81

SE 7

JAN 13 1951

WAP
FIVE

3011
61 FEB 1 1951

JAN 15 1951

11-15-51

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

##

WASHINGTON AND WASH FIELD S6
DIRECTOR AND SAC
ATTENTION - ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR D. M. LADD

FROM SAN FRAN
1-15-51

11-38 AM

U R G E N T

STEWART⁽¹⁾ ALSOP, JOSEPH⁽²⁾ ALSOP, UNKNOWN SUBJECTS. ESP. X. REMYTEL JAN-
UARY FOURTEEN LAST. EXPERIENCE OF AGENTS SFO REFLECTS UCRL HAS EX-
TENSIVE LIBRARY ~~TOP SECRET~~ DATA RELATING TO ATOMIC ENERGY AND TOP
SCIENTISTS HAVE EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE ALL DEVELOPMENTS ATOMIC ENERGY
RESEARCH, AND THEREFORE MAY BE IN POSITION TO IDENTIFY SECRET DOCUMENTS
FROM WHICH ALSOP ARTICLES PREPARED. THIS OFFICE SUGGESTS INTERVIEWS
WITH E. O. LAWRENCE, DIRECTOR, DONALD COOKSEY, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
LUIS ALVAREZ, JOSEPH HAMILTON, AND ROBERT L. THORNTON AND GLEN T.
SEABORG, THE LATTER HAVING BEEN A MEMBER OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY
BOARD OF THE AEC UNTIL AUGUST, FIFTY. ALL OF ABOVE BELIEVED RELIABLE
AND HAVE COOPERATED FULLY IN PAST IN OTHER INQUIRIES MADE BY THE
BUREAU. SINCE THEY ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIF.,
BUREAU REQUESTED TO GRANT SF AUTHORITY TO INTERVIEW THEM.

HANDLED BY
TOP SECRET

KIMBALL

HOLD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

62 FEB 3 1951

DATE 12-8-89 BY 2885 JJA

100-351477-77

LWRO:c1
65-5722

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____

FBI WASHINGTON FIELD
DIRECTOR, FBI

1-15-51

4:30 PM

URGENT

STEWART ALSOP; JOSEPH ALSOP; UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ESP - X. RESFTEL
THIS DATE SUGGESTING INTERVIEWS WITH VARIOUS MEMBERS OF RADIATION
LABORATORY AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA. IT IS BELIEVED THAT
INQUIRY TO IDENTIFY POSSIBLE SOURCE DOCUMENTS OF ALSOP ARTICLES
HAS BEEN ADEQUATELY COVERED BY WFO INVESTIGATION TO DATE AND
THAT INTERVIEWS SUGGESTED BY SF WOULD UNNECESSARILY BROADEN SCOPE
OF THIS INVESTIGATION. IT IS RECOMMENDATION OF THIS OFFICE THAT
INTERVIEWS SUGGESTED BY SF NOT BE CONDUCTED.

HOTTEL

CC - San Francisco (by Airmail)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY SP3 C51 J68

100-354477-77
JAN 20 1951

62 FEB 3 1951

URGENT

JANUARY 16, 1961

SACs SAN FRANCISCO
WASHINGTON FIELD (DSM)

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNKNOWN SUBJECTS, LEFT PAGE - X. 7E
 SAN FRANCISCO AND WASHINGTON FIELD TELETYPE JANUARY FIFTEEN, FIFTY-ONE
 RELATIVE TO INTERVIEW OF SCIENTISTS AT 'CRL. SCRLA' DOES NOT DESIRE
 INTERVIEW OF SCIENTISTS 'CPL INASUCH AS DOCUMENTS' CAN BE SUFFICIENTLY
 IDENTIFIED THROUGH WASHINGTON SOURCES. REBUTAL OF INVESTIGATION
 PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED BY WASHINGTON FIELD.

HOWEVER

cc: WASHINGTON FIELD (BY SPECIAL MESSENGER)

WAA:bar *bar*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 9-26-89 BY 887 BJD/af

Tolson _____
 Ladd _____
 Clegg _____
 Glavin _____
 Nichols _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Harbo _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Nease _____
 Gandy _____

INVESTIGATION
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 16 1961

TELETYPE

JAN 16 1961
 I 2 4
 15. 14. 13. 12. 11. 10. 9. 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1.
 15. 14. 13. 12. 11. 10. 9. 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1.
 15. 14. 13. 12. 11. 10. 9. 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1.

Handwritten signature

WAS

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY 258 BTJ/af

WASH 29 AND WFO 29 FROM LOS ANGELES

13

DIRECTOR AND SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD

....URGENT....

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP AND UNSUB, ESPIONAGE-X. RE WFO TEL JANUARY
TEN LAST. DR. ROBERT F. BACHER ADVISED TODAY HE DOES NOT KNOW SUBJECTS
NOR TO HIS KNOWLEDGE ARE THEY KNOWN TO ANY OF HIS ASSOCIATES.
BACHER STATES THAT MATERIAL CONTAINED IN WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE DATED
DECEMBER THIRTYONE LAST BY SUBJECTS, NOT DIRECTLY TRACEABLE TO REPORT HE
CO-AUTHORED. SAYS THAT LANGUAGE QUOTE CHANCES ARE NINE HUNDRED NINETY
NINE TO ONE UNQUOTE WAS NEVER HEARD BY HIM AND VERY UNLIKELY TERMIN-
OLOGY TO BE USED BY SCIENTISTS WHO CO-AUTHORED REPORT WITH HIM. DID
NOT PERSONALLY MAKE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AND HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF WHO
MIGHT HAVE DONE SO. BACHER SPECULATES IN VIEW OF TEXT OF ARTICLE
DECEMBER THIRTYONE LAST, THAT MATERIAL CONTAINED THEREIN WAS NOT OBTAIN-
ED DIRECTLY FROM REPORT HE CO-AUTHORED IN THAT IT DIFFERS FROM BASIC
DETAILS WHICH HE RECALLS S HAVING BEEN IN REPORT. STATES ALSO THAT HE
FEELS SURE THAT ARTICLE NOT BASED ON MEMO BY [REDACTED] IN THAT
MATERIAL THEREIN QUOTE CONTAINED MUCH SPECTACULAR INFORMATION UNQUOTE

END PAGE ON

RECORDED - 56

7-56

62 FEB 3 1951 289

100-354477-79
WAB-79

b6
b7c

PAGE TWO

WHICH HE FEELS SUBJECTS WOULD HAVE USED TO FURTHER DRAMATIZE
THEIR ARTICLE. BACHER NOTES CONTRADICTION IN ARTICLE OF DECEMBER THIRT
ONE IN THAT ~~FERMI~~, ~~BUCKLEY~~ AND ~~CONANT~~ WERE NOT IN GROUP WHICH DREW
CONCLUSION THIS MATTER. STATES ACTUAL GROUP WAS HIMSELF, J.R.
~~OPPENHEIMER~~, REAR ADMIRAL ~~PARSONS~~ AND VANNEVAR ~~BUSH~~. STATES AT LEAST
FORTY INDIVIDUALS REPRESENTING VARIOUS BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT WERE
PRESENT AT TIME REPORTS OF OPERATION WERE CORRELATED. POINTS OUT THAT
ANYONE OF FORTY PRESENT WOULD HAVE KNOWN IDENTITY OF HIM AND
ASSOCIATES WHO AUTHORED REPORT AS THEIR IDENTITY IS WELL KNOWN TO ALL
PRESENT. HENCE QUOTE LEAK UNQUOTE MIGHT WELL HAVE BEEN FROM
INDIVIDUALS OTHER THAN FORTY PRESENT AT CONFERENCE. RE ARTICLE DATED
OCTOBER THIRTEENTH FIFTY, SAYS HE DOES NOT RECOGNIZE MATERIAL AS HAVING
BEEN CONTAINED IN ANY AEC REPORT HE HAS EVER SEEN NOR DOES IT SEEM
SIMILAR TO ANY INTELLIGENCE REPORT HE HAS READ IN PAST. FURTHER STATES
KNOWS OF NO INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS SPECULATED ON POSSIBILITY MENTIONED
ARTICLE USING FIGURES OF SUCH NATURE THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO
IDENTIFY SOURCE. REPORT FOLLOWS AMSD.

HOOD

END AND ACK PLS

11
44

TWO COPIES WFO

LS T Z

LA R29 WA JAK

TU DISC PLS

CC 100-90947
JUN 10 1950
RECEIVED
ESPIONAGE
DIVISION
FBI
Belmont

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 16 1951

TELETYPE

SAN FRANCISCO ✓ 7 FROM WASH DC 16 2-26 PM HBL

SAC U R G E N T

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNKNOWN SUBJECTS, ESPIONAGE - X. RE
SAN FRANCISCO AND WASHINGTON FIELD TELETYPES JANUARY FIFTEEN, FIFTY-ONE,
RELATIVE TO INTERVIEW OF SCIENTISTS AT UCRL. BUREAU DOES NOT DESIRE
INTERVIEW OF SCIENTISTS UCRL INASMUCH AS DOCUMENTS CAN BE SUFFICIENTLY
IDENTIFIED THROUGH WASHINGTON SOURCES. SUBMIT REPORT INVESTIGATION
PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED BY WASHINGTON FIELD.

HOOVER ✓

HOLD PLS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY SP8 SJJ/AR

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U S STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-15

No classified DOE information per DOE letter dated Feb 26, 2014

To: COMMUNICATION.

Transmit the following message to:

JANUARY 18, 1951

SAC'S SAN FRANCISCO
WASHINGTON FIELD

URGENT

STEWART ALSOP, ET AL, ESP - X. RE SAN FRANCISCO AND WFO TELS
JANUARY EIGHTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTY-ONE. WFO TELETYPE RE CONTACT
[REDACTED] STATES [REDACTED] ACTION QUOTE
AS AN INFORMANT IN CONTACTING JOSEPH ALSOP UNQUOTE WOULD BE
HELD IN STRICTEST OF CONFIDENCE AND DOES NOT INDICATE THAT,
QUOTE BUREAU'S CONTACT WITH [REDACTED] HELD
IN STRICTEST OF CONFIDENCE UNQUOTE AS IS STATED IN SF TEL.
BUREAU DESIRES TO DISSEMINATE REPORT OF [REDACTED] DATED
JANUARY FIFTEEN LAST AT SAN FRANCISCO IN THE FORM SUBMITTED.
SAN FRANCISCO AND WFO ADVISE IMMEDIATELY TODAY WHETHER ANY
OBJECTION TO DISSEMINATION OF REPORT IN PRESENT FORM BASED
ON AGREEMENTS WITH [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY 2573/af

WAA:JC:PJB

CC - WASHINGTON FIELD (BY SPECIAL MESSENGER)

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

JAN 18 1951

TELETYPE

SENT VIA _____

62 FEB 3 1951

Per _____

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 1-22-51

FROM : SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD

SUBJECT: STEWART ^QALSOP;
ETAL
ESPIONAGE - X
(Bufile: 100-354477)

Remytel January 22, 1951.

There are enclosed herewith for the Bureau and designated offices corrected pages 11 and 22 to be inserted in the report of SA CARL E. GRAHAM dated January 20, 1951 in the above captioned case.

WHM:AGG
65-5722

Enclosures - 5

cc: New Haven (Encl. - 1) **DATE 9-26**
San Francisco (Encl. - 1) (65-4356)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-26-89 BY 0085573 af

RECORDED -

100-354477-82
JAN 24 1951

34

51 FEB 6 1951

WAA
CONFIDENTIAL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC, Washington Field

SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP, et al
ESPIONAGE - X

DATE: January 24, 1951

*All Defense info Pay 1 + 2 Indclassified
Per letter 12-21-91*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-26-89 BY SP3 BTJ/agp

On January 22, 1951, Colonel SIDNEY S. RUBENSTEIN, who has previously been contacted in connection with this investigation, advised that in the course of his check of various registers in the Office of the Secretary of Defense in an effort to determine whether or not either of the ALSOP brothers had visited any of the officers in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, he ascertained that on Saturday, January 13, 1951, JOSEPH ALSOP visited General GAVIN at his office in the Pentagon Building from 11:45 A. M. to 1:00 P. M. Colonel RUBENSTEIN indicated that he had no idea why ALSOP had called on General GAVIN, or the nature of the matter they discussed.

Colonel RUBENSTEIN identified General GAVIN as Major General JAMES MAURICE GAVIN, U. S. Army, Member, Planning Division, Policy and Review Board, Weapons System Evaluation Group, Office of the Secretary of Defense.

In view of the fact that the date January 13, 1951 is considerably removed from the pertinent period covered by this investigation, it is not anticipated that General GAVIN will be interviewed relative to the visit of JOSEPH ALSOP, unless the Bureau instructs to the contrary.

RECORDED - 20

INDEXED - 20

EX - 36

100-354477-83
JAN 25 1951
37
WRA384
61 FEB 11951
WHM:cl
65-5722

*Not in Pasture
Period*

*Hold in
abeyance
for Sept
10 opinion*

WRA

No classified DOE information per DOE letter dated Feb 26, 2014

January 22, 1951

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE~~

SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
CLASSIFICATION
ACTION

PURPOSE:

To recommend the dissemination of WFO report in this case dated 1-13-51 to the Department and to call your attention to the following information:

1. Highlights of interviews with certain Government officials during the course of this investigation.

2. Opinions given by officials who were interviewed which have been included in this report and which would not normally be disseminated outside the Bureau.

3. Information obtained by WFO from an independent source relative to the association between former Secretary of Defense Forrestal and the Alsops which information is not being disseminated in this report, due to the highly confidential nature of the investigation in which it was obtained.

4. To recommend that the report be disseminated to the Department and that the opinions stated by officials interviewed be permitted to remain in the report in view of the nature of the investigation requested by the Deputy Attorney General in this case.

5. To recommend approval of the attached letter to the Deputy Attorney General requesting his opinion as to further investigation to be conducted.

6. To recommend that collateral leads which have been suggested and which appear to have no direct bearing on the immediate source or sources of the Alsop's information be held in abeyance until the opinion of the Deputy Attorney General is received.

BACKGROUND:

You will recall that under
Peyton Ford, Deputy Attorney General,
a request for an investigation based

Attachment
WAA:chw(etm)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

the President to the Attorney General requesting that the Federal Bureau of Investigation determine the source or sources of information through which Stewart and Joseph Alsop obtain information relative to Soviet A-bomb production and strategic air power. ~~S-1 (S)~~ (U)

The President requested the Attorney General to advise him of the results of this inquiry. You will recall that information appeared in the column "Matter of Fact," written by the Alsop brothers on 10-18-50, 12-20-50, and 12-31-50, which reflected the extent of the stockpiling of Soviet atomic bombs, the estimated strength of the Soviet Strategic Air Force, reference to NSC Directive No. 68 dealing with the U.S. War Potential and the method of detection of the Soviet A-blast. ~~S-1 (S)~~ (U)

The above information has been described by the Department of Defense and the Atomic Energy Commission as highly classified.

I. Highlights of Interviews with Certain Government Officials During This Investigation

The report of SA Carl E. Graham dated 1-13-51, at Washington, D. C., captioned as above, reflects the following information which was obtained in the course of interviews with Government officials in connection with this investigation:

A. Information of the type which appeared in the column "Matter of Fact" on 10-18-50, relative to Soviet stockpiling of A-bombs and Soviet air power could have been obtained from 9 different documents which have been widely disseminated through the Government.

B. NSC Directive No. 68, mentioned in the Alsops' column of 12-20-50, has been widely disseminated through the Government and, while it is a classified document, it is estimated that the contents or some portion of the contents of this Directive are known to several hundred people in the Government.

It is further known that the information appearing in NSC Directive No. 68 also appeared in a report prepared by the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee.

C. The basic information relative to Soviet atomic bomb detection, which appeared on 12-31-50 in the Alsops' column, is contained in 4 documents of a classified nature, and portions of this information have been disseminated throughout the Government in the form of memoranda and briefs.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

D. Government officials having knowledge of the contents of the classified documents involved in this case have expressed the opinion that no one document could be singled out as the source of all of the information which appeared in the Alsops' articles.

E. All officials interviewed to date have denied furnishing any information to the Alsops. Brigadier General Alvin Luedcke, Executive Secretary of the Military Liaison Committee to the Atomic Energy Commission, OSD, upon examining the article entitled "How Red A-Blast was Detected," points out that there were a considerable number of inaccuracies in the article and that Joseph Alsop has an unusual ability and is particularly adept at drawing information from individuals whom he interviews. (p.20)

General Luedcke referred to a book review by M. S. Haseltine which appeared in the "Washington Post" on 1-7-51 under the title "The Hell Bomb," by William L. Laurence. Haseltine, in his review, pointed out that Laurence disclaims any inside track or secret information for his book and that Laurence based his conclusions on the public writings of scientists; "cats let out of the bag" by Senator Edwin C. Johnson in a television broadcast on 11-1-49, and discussions had during the atomic bomb days at Los Alamos, New Mexico. According to Haseltine, Laurence's book reflects that Senator Johnson's television broadcast confirm the fact that the Nagasaki bomb was made of plutonium, that the atomic explosion in Russia announced by President Truman was an atomic bomb, and that the Russian bomb was made of plutonium.

A review of the verbatim transcript of Senator Johnson's broadcast of 11-1-49, over Station WARD-TV, New York, entitled "Is There Too Much Secrecy In Our Atomic Program," fails to indicate that Senator Johnson disclosed any information which has appeared in the Alsops' articles.

F. On 11-23-49, according to General Luedcke, General Frederick Osborn, permanent U.S. representative on the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission, stated that the report of an atomic explosion in Russia was correct, that the United States was equipped to know, and that we could tell within a few hours from the change in the amount of radiation in the atmosphere. General Osborn also announced that we could tell the difference between a uranium and plutonium explosion.

General Luedcke pointed out that an astute and intelligent columnist could write an article relative to the air sampling method of detecting an atomic blast, based on the above and other public source information available. (p.29)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G. The investigation has developed information which reflects that a large amount of public source information is available relative to estimates of Soviet atomic bomb production, and information in Government circles, through access to classified material, is available to several hundred and even thousands of individuals.

H. Dr. Vannevar Bush, President of Carnegie Institute of Washington, who prepared many of the original reports relative to atomic bomb production and detection, advised that he frequently talks with Joseph Alsop and that he trusts him. He did not think that Alsop would have printed the information which appeared in his articles unless he had been told by some extremely highly placed Government official that it was all right to do so.

Dr. Bush expressed the opinion that the material in the Alsops' articles came from a top Government official and that it appeared to him a disclosure in the nature of a "controlled leak." (p.38)

I. William H. Jackson, Deputy Director of CIA, was interviewed by Bureau Agents on 1-9-51, at which time he admitted knowing the Alsops, and mentioned casually that he had an appointment with Joseph Alsop later on in the day. He was specifically questioned as to whether the appointment pertained to the subject matter of this investigation, and advised Agents that it pertained to another matter which he desired to take up with Alsop to iron out a misunderstanding. Agents later obtained information through [redacted] of the State Department indicating that Jackson had engaged in a discussion with Stewart Alsop at a dinner party on January 5, 1951 and had challenged Alsop for printing the article relative to the Soviet A-Blast. S-2(S)

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(U) Jackson was reinterviewed by Bureau Agents on 1-11-51 and requested to clarify his denial that his interview with Alsop was relative to the subject matter of this investigation. S-2(S)

(U) Jackson explained that he did not mention the matter during the initial interview because of the possibility that it might be misinterpreted by any one present who overheard the discussion and that it may have been construed as an argument accompanied by some personal feelings on the part of himself and Stewart Alsop. When Jackson requested that if possible, his failure to disclose the above information on the occasion of the first interview be kept confidential, he was advised that all facts in the case would be made available to the Attorney General. S-2(S)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

II. Information in the Form of Opinions of Officials
Which Would not Normally be Disseminated by the Bureau

During an interview with Colonel Sidney S. Rubenstein of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Colonel Rubenstein advised that Stewart Alsop was known to have had the "inside track" to the office of former Secretary of Defense James Forrestal, but that this arrangement was terminated abruptly by former Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson. (p.16)

Lieutenant Colonel George P. Hill, Jr., of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, described Senator Edwin C. Johnson of Colorado, a member of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, as a "very weak security hazard." He further stated that Johnson might furnish information to the Alsops if he thought it would bring him political advantages. (p.14)

Lieutenant Colonel Hill, when questioned as to the possible source of a leak of information, ventured the opinion that the leak could well have occurred "on the Hill." (p.50)

For your information, Assistant Director Nichols has interviewed Senator Brien McMahon, Chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy and William Borden, Director of the Committee Staff, and no information was developed indicating that the Alsops' information came from this source.

Dr. Malcolm Henderson, Assistant to the Director of Intelligence, Atomic Energy Commission, remarked during the interview with him that he had heard a rumor which could not be traced by him to the effect that the Air Force utilized the Alsops as a "controlled leak." (p.33)

Dr. Walter F. Colby, Director of Intelligence, Atomic Energy Commission, suggested the possibility that a deliberate attempt could have been perpetrated in the publishing of these articles to refute Senator Brewster's denial of the existence of a Soviet A-bomb. (p.33)

Dr. Malcolm Henderson made the following statement which he described as a rumor which could not be substantiated or traced by him: That the Alsops were particularly close to Lieutenant General Albert O. Wedemeyer, formerly of the Office of the Chief of Staff. (p.34)

For your information, Lieutenant General Wedemeyer has been interviewed and admits knowing the Alsops, denies furnishing any information to them of a classified nature

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

and has offered to assist the Bureau in attempting to determine, through personal contact with the Alsops, the source or sources from which they obtained their information.

Dr. Vannevar Bush of the Carnegie Institute of Washington advised that he felt that the investigation in this matter, (the source of information of the Alsop brothers) would be futile because he did not think it was possible to run down the source of the Alsop material, and that if the source were uncovered it would probably be a high Government official and that therefore nothing could be done about it and that publication of the material was probably authorized by such an individual. (p.38)

Major General Roscoe C. Wilson, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations for Atomic Energy, Department of the Air Force, stated that while he could not definitely recall the source from which he had heard the expression "A plutonium bomb, at least of the Nagasaki type, if not better," but that it sounded like the phraseology of J. Robert Oppenheimer. (p.75)

For your information, J. Robert Oppenheimer has been interviewed by the Newark Office on the date of 1-12-51, and during the course of the examination of the contents of the Alsops' articles he stated that the statement "The chances are 999 to 1 that it was a bomb that went off," which appeared in the 12-31-50 article of the Alsops sounded familiar to him and sounded like something he would say. Oppenheimer further indicated that he believed that he said something like that before the Joint Congressional Committee in September, 1949.

III. Information Furnished by the Washington Field Office
Which is not Being Disseminated Due to the Highly
Confidential nature of the Investigation in Which the
Information was Obtained

Confidential Informant C-607 of the Washington Field Office (a technical surveillance), advised on 2-16-50, in connection with the investigation of Andre Visson, well-known newspaperman and writer, that Visson related a story which he claimed came from Secretary of Defense Johnson to the effect that Johnson found a white telephone behind his desk when he assumed his duties as Secretary of Defense. This phone was a direct wire to Joseph Alsop's office which had been established by the late Secretary, James Forrestal, according to Visson. Johnson had this phone disconnected and cancelled instructions given by Forrestal that Alsop be given all information he desired, including top secret information.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

This informant further related that Johnson claimed that Joseph Alsop visited him on a later date and asked why Johnson had issued the above instructions, to which Johnson replied that he did not trust Alsop and knew that Alsop was out "to get him." Johnson made the statement that he would "get Alsop first," according to Visson. This information has not been included in the report for dissemination to the Attorney General in view of the highly confidential nature of the investigation conducted on Andre Visson. (X)u

OBSERVATIONS

You will recall that in the memorandum from the President to the Attorney General which was enclosed with Deputy Attorney General Peyton Ford's letter of 1-5-51, the President stated that he desired that this investigation be conducted with the end in view of prosecution and such other administrative action as is deemed necessary to obviate its recurrence. The President further requested the Attorney General to advise him of the results of this investigation. As has been noted above, certain information has been included in referenced report from the Washington Field Office which consists of opinions and rumors of Government officials and individuals interviewed and that certain other information indicates that the Department of the Air Force or other Government sources may be purposely disseminating information for some reason or another. S-1 (S) (u)

It is further noted that during the course of the investigation conducted to date numerous individuals such as college professors, members and employees of Congressional committees, and scientists have been mentioned as having access to various classified documents relative to the subject matter of this case. They have not been interviewed in the absence of some specific indications of immediate connection with the matter.

RECOMMENDATION

1. In view of the above facts, it is recommended that the information which has been furnished to Bureau Agents in the form of rumor and opinion, be included in this report and furnished to the Attorney General, even though it is information of the type which would not normally be disseminated by the Bureau.

2. It is further recommended that the attached letter to Deputy Attorney General Peyton Ford, requesting his opinion as to further investigation to be conducted, be approved and forwarded.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

There is enclosed herewith with the letter to the Deputy Attorney General one copy of each of the following reports received in this case:

1. Report of Special Agent Carl E. Graham dated 1-13-51, at Washington, D. C.
2. Report of Special Agent Carl E. Graham, dated 1-20-51, at Washington, D. C.
3. Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 1-15-51, at San Francisco, California.

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b7c

3. It is further recommended that collateral leads which have been developed during the course of this investigation and which do not have a direct bearing on the identification of the Alsops' sources, be held in abeyance until the opinion of the Deputy Attorney General is received relative to further investigation to be conducted.

~~SECRET~~ (U)

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

Office Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
CLASSIFICATION
ACTION

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC, Washington Field

SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP, et al
ESPIONAGE - X
(Bufile 100-354477)

DATE: January 19, 1951

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE~~

AWA

~~Classified by 202875/28
Declassify on: OADR 9-26-89~~

Rerep of Special Agent CARL E. GRAHAM, dated
January 13, 1951, at Washington, D. C.

There are being transmitted herewith, five photo-
static copies each of the following, which as noted, have been
described by EUGENE WINTERS of CIA as containing information
similar in part to that appearing in the ALSOP columns:

1. Excerpts from London Times of July 28, 1950,
containing speech of WINSTON CHURCHILL in House of Commons.
2. Article by JOHN STUART from New York Times of
June 15, 1950.
3. Article by HANSON W. BALDWIN from New York
Times of July 17, 1950.

ENCLOSURE - MIND FILE

RLS:cl
65-5722
Enclosures

RECORDED - 90
INDEXED - 90

JAN 23 1951

~~SECRET~~

1-CC of
to [unclear]

AWA

AWA

DECLASSIFIED BY 60267 NLS/BVK
ON 3/1/01
per CIA letter dated 5/14/99

28978

71 FEB 6

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Clegg

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Harbo

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Egan

Mr. Gurnea

Mr. Hendon

Mr. Jones

Mr. Quinn

Mr. Nease

Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY 08852/af

##

WASH AND WASH FIELD S7 FROM SAN FRANCISCO

1-16-51

DIRECTOR AND SAC

U R G E N T

ATTENTION. ASST. TO DIRECTOR D. M. LADD

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNSUBS. ESPIONAGE - X. RMYTEL JANUARY

FOURTEEN LAST. CORRECTION TO PAGE THREE.

THROUGH WHOM HE MAY BE CONTACTED IN WASHINGTON, D. C., SHOULD READ

QUOTE UNQUOTE.

KIMBALL

END

HOLD PLS

11
44

INDEXED - 103

RECORDED - 103

JAN 23 1951

19

b6
b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

JAN 18 1951

TELETYPE

ALL INFORMATION
HEREIN IS UNCL
DATE 9-26-89

FBI NEW HAVEN

1-18-51

3-56 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD
STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNSUB. ESP X. RE WFO
JAN. SEVENTEEN LAST. MRS. CARROLL WILSON, CANNONDAI
ADVISED HUSBAND IN NYC CONTACTING VARIOUS BUSINESS
OF CONTACT UNKNOWN BUT IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO HOI
THIS EVENING FROM WHICH POINT HE WILL REPORTEDLY DE
DATE FOR BOSTON ON BUSINESS TRIP. ATTEMPTS TO CON
TELEPHONICALLY AT YALE CLUB, HASKIN LABORATORIES,
BANK, ALL NYC TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENT FOR INTERVIEW
EFFORT TO BE MADE TO INTERVIEW WILSON THIS EVENING
AND WFO WILL BE KEPT ADVISED.

RECORDED - 74
WILLIS

END

4-00 PM OK FBI WA LIR

VV

TWO COPIES WFO

05 FEB 2 1951

RECORDED - 74
JAN 19 1951
EX-125
WAB

file Memo • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
ESPIONAGE - X

DATE: 1/19/51

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Remytel 1/19/51.

There are transmitted herewith five copies to the Bureau and three copies to the Washington Field Office of the amended report of SA [redacted] dated 1/15/51 in the above captioned case.

b6
b7C

This report should be substituted for the report previously submitted.

Enclosure

DET:hmk

65-4356

cc: WFO (65-5722)(encl.)AMSD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY 208357J/ap

RECORDED

JAN 22-1951

W R A
JAN 29 1951

consultation

391
60 FEB 7 1951

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

WASHINGTON FIELD

FILE NO. 65-4356

REPORT MADE AT SAN FRANCISCO	DATE WHEN MADE 1-19-51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/19/51	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] MAC
TITLE STEWART ALSOP; JOSEPH ALSOP; UNKNOWN SUBJECTS			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - X

b6
b7C"ADMINISTRATIVE"

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

SF T-1 has no further information or suggestions for determining the source of ALSOP brothers' information.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY [REDACTED]

DETAILS:

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

San Francisco T-1, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was reinterviewed on January 19, 1951 by Assistant Special Agent in Charge RICHARD C. GODFREY and the writer. T-1 stated that he had no further suggestions for determining the source of the information which appeared in the ALSOP brothers' articles dated October 13, 1950 and December 31, 1950. He stated that [REDACTED]

b7D

San Francisco T-1 was specifically questioned as to the extent of [REDACTED] He stated that [REDACTED]

b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Harry M. [REDACTED]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		100-354477-89
2 Bureau		JAN 23 1951
3 Washington (65-5722)		RECORDED
2 San Francisco		INDEXED
[REDACTED]		CONFIDENTIAL

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

ADMINISTRATIVE

	T-1 stated he knew that

b7D

With regard to [redacted] who San Francisco T-1

b7D

T-1 was specifically questioned concerning the possibility of

--

b7D

By teletype dated January 16, 1951, the Bureau advised the San Francisco Office that no interview was necessary with regard to any scientists at the University of California Radiation Laboratory.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

SF 65-4356

INFORMANT SHEET

SF T-1 is

[Redacted]

b7D

REFERENCE:

Report of SA [Redacted] dated January 15, 1951,
San Francisco.
Bureau teletypes dated 1/16/51 and 1/18/51.
Washington Field teletype dated 1/19/51.
San Francisco teletype dated 1/19/51.

b6
b7C

VERNMENT

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

b6
b7C

DEFERRED RECORDING
~~UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT~~

b6
b7C
b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/26/88 BY 2038

RECORDED

JAN 29 1981

美地

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: January 26, 1951

FROM : SAC, NEWARK

SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ESPIONAGE - XALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY 28251 JG. I. R. -10

Enclosed herewith are amended pages to the report of SA []
[] dated January 13, 1951 concerning the above-captioned subjects.

b6
b7C

These pages have been amended to eliminate the following information that was furnished by Dr. J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, who has since requested that this particular information not be disseminated:

"Dr. OPPENHEIMER was questioned concerning any suspicions he had as to the ALSOPs' source of information. He stated that he could think of but one remote possibility and that he was extremely reluctant to mention the individual's name inasmuch as he had no basis for his suspicions or any shred of proof. However, this individual appeared to be "unusually chatty" and was in a position where he had access to classified information of the type contained in the ALSOPs' article. He identified this person as [] who is []

b6
b7C

"In addition, he said that he considers [] absolutely loyal to the United States but perhaps not the "soul of discretion." He also stated that he has previously mentioned his suspicions to [] Atomic Energy Commission. He recalled that he relayed his suspicions to [] shortly after the ALSOPs published their columns on the Hydrogen Bomb in January of 1950."

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b7C

By Butel dated January 25, 1951, Newark was advised that report of SA [] was to be disseminated, and Newark office was requested to advise if the information regarding [] could be disseminated to the Department.

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b7C

Dr. OPPENHEIMER was contacted on January 26, 1951, at which time he was advised that the information he had furnished concerning [] was being considered for dissemination to the Department, and he was asked if he was agreeable to such dissemination. He replied that under no circumstances should the information that he furnished concerning [] be sent outside the confidential knowledge of the Bureau. He said that he has thought a great deal concerning his remarks about [] and that he feels he was extremely irresponsible and loose tongued when he mentioned []

b6
b7CCCL:bar
65-4165

cc: Washington Field Office

RECORDED

INDEXED

JAN 27 1951

60 FEB 5 1951

name. He said that he had actually been thinking aloud and that he would do [] a great injustice by placing him under a cloud of suspicion. He also said that he had no business ever mentioning [] name and that the information should be minimized to the utmost; further that what he had done as far as furnishing [] name was a big mistake on his part and that it was just an unsubstantiated hunch without any basis.

Dr. OPPENHEIMER was reminded that he had considered [] on the basis that he was in a position where he had access to classified information of the type contained in the ALSOPs' article and that he appeared to be "unusually chatty". Dr. OPPENHEIMER stated that while such may be the case that he has never heard [] discuss these matters with any unauthorized person.

Dr. OPPENHEIMER also advised that since his interview on January 12, 1951 with SAs [] he has been in touch with [] General Counsel for the Atomic Energy Commission and has advised him that he had furnished [] name to agents of the FBI. He also stated that he has incorporated the information concerning [] in a memorandum, a copy of which he is going to furnish []. Dr. OPPENHEIMER said that he prepared this memorandum in the event he should meet an untimely death and in order to completely absolve [] of any suspicion.

He requested that the information he furnished concerning [] not be disseminated, but rather kept in extreme confidence by the FBI.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to:

JANUARY 20, 1951

SAC'S NEWARK
CINCINNATI
LOS ANGELES

URGENT

STEWART ALSOP; JOSEPH ALSOP; UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ESPIONAGE - X.

REWFO TEL JANUARY ELEVENTH LAST AND BUTEL INSTRUCTING THAT REPORT
BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY ON COMPLETION OF INVESTIGATION. SUREP
IMMEDIATELY IF REPORT NOT ALREADY SUBMITTED.

HOOVER

100-354477

WAA:EHW

No classified DOE information per DOE letter dated Feb 26, 2014

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY 203851 Jap

RECORDED - 9

JAN 23 1951

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 20 1951

TELETYPE

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W.A.A.

SENT

62 FEB 5 1951

941

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 20 1951

TELETYPE

NEWARK FROM WASH 12 20 941 PM

SAC

U R G E N T

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ESPIONAGE - X.

REWFO TEL JANUARY ELEVENTH LAST AND BUTEL INSTRUCTING THAT REPORT
BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY ON COMPLETION OF INVESTIGATION. SUREP
IMMEDIATELY IF REPORT NOT ALREADY SUBMITTED.

HOOVER

CI AND LA ADVISED

ACK AND HOLD PLS

WA R 12 NK CEG

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY SP-2 CJS/af

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 20 1951

78
TELETYPE

LOS ANGELES 13 FROM WASH DC 20 8-28 PM

SAC U R G E N T

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ESPIONAGE - X.
REWFO TEL JANUARY ELEVENTH LAST AND BUTEL INSTRUCTING THAT REPORT
BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY ON COMPLETION OF INVESTIGATION. SUREP
IMMEDIATELY IF REPORT NOT ALREADY SUBMITTED.

HOOVER

NK AND CI ADVISED

EMD

WA R 13 LA/LD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-26-89 BY SP-8 BTJ-8

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 20 1951

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

1-20-51

6-33 PM

DD

SAC CINCINNATI URGENT

STEWART ALSOP-- JOSEPH ALSOP-- UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ESPIONAGE - X.
REWFO TEL JANUARY ELEVENTH LAST AND BUTEL INSTRUCTING THAT REPORT
BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY ON COMPLETION OF INVESTIGATION. SUREP
IMMEDIATELY IF REPORT NOT ALREADY SUBMITTED.

HOOVER

NK AND LA ADVISED

END ACK PLS

OK FBI ~~CI~~ ABC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-26-89 BY SP8 BTJ/af

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